

NON-FATAL INCIDENTS

1. **SHOOTER:** 50 year-old male **VICTIM:** 49 year-old male
 FIREARM: .380 semi-auto pistol **TYPE:** Non-fatal
 COUNTY: Okanogan **BLAZE ORANGE:** No
 HUNTER ED GRADUATE: No **DATE OF INCIDENT:** 9/4/2003

NARRATIVE:

The shooter and hunting partner were grouse and rabbit hunting with shotguns. The shooter also carried a pistol. After seeing a rabbit, the shooter drew his pistol, slipped and discharged the pistol into his partner's left thigh. The victim was about 15 feet in front of the shooter. Investigation revealed the shooter did not have a small game license, so in addition to loss of hunting privileges based on this hunting incident, the shooter also received a citation for hunting without a small game license.

CAUSE: Careless handling; shooter stumbled and fell

2. **SHOOTER:** Unknown male **VICTIM:** 12 year-old male
 FIREARM: Shotgun **TYPE:** Non-fatal
 COUNTY: Thurston **BLAZE ORANGE:** Unknown
 HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Unknown **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 9/27/03

NARRATIVE:

A father and son were pheasant hunting with a third hunter on a public pheasant release area. Another group of four hunters was hunting nearby. As a pheasant flushed and flew at shoulder-level, the young hunter followed the bird but was cautioned by his father not to fire since other hunters were in the immediate vicinity. Unfortunately for the young hunter, an unknown hunter fired, striking him with pellet wounds to his left hand, forearm and right temple. Investigating sheriff's officers could not identify shooter.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

3. **SHOOTER:** 55 year-old male **VICTIM:** 33 year-old male
 FIREARM: 20-gauge shotgun **TYPE:** Non-fatal
 COUNTY: Douglas **BLAZE ORANGE:** No
 HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 10/04/03

NARRATIVE:

A hunter was quail hunting near a residence on a Wildlife Area. Quail flushed and the shooter fired two shots before the shooter heard someone yelling at him. Between 10-20 pellets struck but did not penetrate the victim—standing alongside a house 75 yards from the shooter. Pellets also struck the house. The shooter reported that no safety signs were in the area and that he didn't think he shot towards the house.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

4. **SHOOTER:** 63 year-old male **VICTIMS:** 43 year-old male

COUNTY: Douglas
HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes

BLAZE ORANGE: Yes
DATE OF ACCIDENT: 12/26/03

NARRATIVE: The shooter and victim were quail hunting four abreast with two other hunters. A covey of quail flushed and the shooter tracked the quail, firing when he thought the quail were still safely within his zone of fire. Unfortunately, the victim was struck with 30 pellets from a distance of 25 yards.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

8. **SHOOTER:** 46 year-old male **VICTIM:** 40 year-old male
FIREARM: 12-gauge shotgun **TYPE:** Non-Fatal
COUNTY: Yakima **BLAZE ORANGE:** Yes
HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 12/27/03

NARRATIVE: The shooter and victim were quail hunting with another hunter when they saw quail move into heavy brush. The victim circled wide to the right while the shooter and third hunter circled to the left. The shooter thought the victim was behind him when he saw a quail fly to his right. He fired, striking the victim in the neck forehead and eye.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

9. **SHOOTER:** 26 year-old male **VICTIM:** 31 year-old male
FIREARM: .22-250 rifle **TYPE:** Non-Fatal
COUNTY: Franklin **BLAZE ORANGE:** No
HUNTER ED GRADUATE: Yes **DATE OF ACCIDENT:** 03/6/04

NARRATIVE: The shooter and victim were coyote hunting with a third hunter. Using both manual and electronic calls, the hunters separated in an attempt to attract coyotes. The shooter reported observing a coyote, ducking in and out of view several times. The shooter thought he saw the coyote's head at a distance of 40 yards, when he shot and struck the victim in the head. The hunters did not have permission to hunt in the area they were hunting. The victim is expected to make a full recovery.

CAUSE: Victim covered by shooter swinging on game

	<u>Fatal Accidents</u>	<u>Non-Fatal Accidents</u>	<u>Total Accidents</u>
Eastern Washington	0	6	6
Western Washington	<u>0</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	0	9	9

SHOOTER STATUS, TYPE OF FIREARM, NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS

<u>Shooter Status</u>	<u>Number of Accidents</u>	<u>Firearm Type</u>	<u>Fatal</u>	<u>Non-Fatal</u>	<u>Total</u>
Self-inflicted	0	Shotgun	0	6	6
Shot by someone in same party	6	Rifle	0	1	1
Shot by someone outside party	3	Handgun	0	1	1
Livestock	<u>0</u>	Unknown	0	1	1
Total	9	Archery	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
			0	9	9

SPECIES BEING PURSUED AT TIME OF ACCIDENT

<u>Species</u>	<u>Number Fatal Accidents</u>	<u>Number Non-Fatal Accidents</u>	<u>Total Accidents</u>
Upland birds/grouse	0	7	7
Deer/elk	0	1	1
Coyote	0	1	1
	0	14	14

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U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Office of External Programs
4040 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 130
Arlington, VA 22203

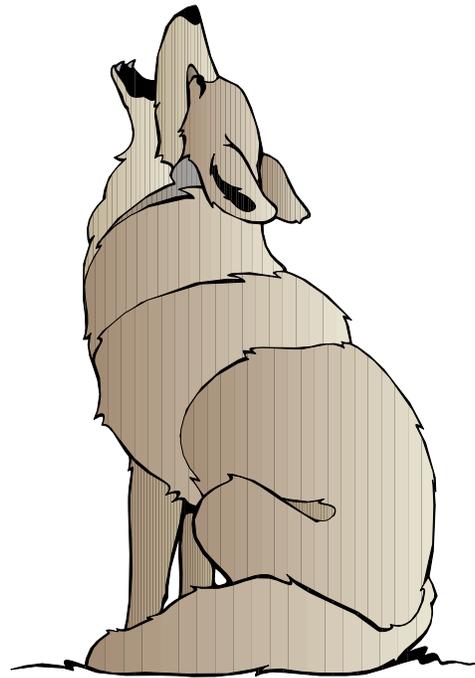
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DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Washington

July 1, 2002 — June 30, 2003



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WILDLIFE**

Hunting Accident Report
Hunter Education Division
Enforcement Program

Hunting Incidents In Washington 1937 – 2003

Years	Fatal Incidents	Non-Fatal Incidents	Livestock Incidents	Total Incidents	Self-Inflicted Fatalities
1937 - 1946	75	74	3	152	24
1947 - 1956	102	267	8	377	24
1957 - 1966	62	329	25	415	16
1967 - 1976	56	353	0	409	N/A
1977 - 1986	37	279	4	337	N/A
1987 - 1996	20	176	8	204	5
1997 - 2003	3	68	1	72	1
Total #	355	1,546	49	1,966	70

Hunting Fatalities By Decade
 Department Of Fish And Wildlife
 Enforcement Program
 Hunter Education Division

